



PUBLIC NOTICE

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE STAKEHOLDER MEETING

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Augusta, GA is pleased to announce the creation of the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee (HMPC). The Committee is working in cooperation with the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and the PMC-P&M Consulting Team to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) for Augusta - Richmond County and the cities of Blythe and Hephzibah. Augusta, GA received a Hazard Mitigation Grant and we are providing local match resources to fund the planning process.

The Plan is designed to address our community's vulnerability to natural and man-made hazards and serve to reduce future critical facility, community services, residential property, and commercial property losses from hazardous events, before they occur. The most significant areas of concern for our communities (Augusta, Blythe and Hephzibah) were identified in the original Hazard Mitigation Plan. During development of the Plan Update, community leaders will identify goals and actions to reduce the impacts of these hazards. The Plan is also a useful tool for leveraging additional sources of funding in the event of a disaster.

The Committee will have participation from regional and local businesses, agencies, entities, and citizens. The Plan also requires community input and involvement. Please contact Terri L. Turner, Assistant Zoning & Development Administrator for the Augusta - Richmond County Planning Commission at (706) 821-1796 for more information about the Plan Update.

The initial Committee meeting will be held on the 8th Floor of the Augusta Municipal Building, from 9 a.m. to noon, on Tuesday, June 14, 2011. Following the completion of the Draft Hazard Mitigation Plan Update, there will be a press release announcing a 30 day public review and comment period.

Visit the Augusta - Richmond County Planning Commission's website at www.augustaga.gov for more information about the project.